

~~TOP SECRET UMBRA~~DATE: 10/08/98
PAGE: 1

JFK ASSASSINATION SYSTEM

IDENTIFICATION FORM

AGENCY INFORMATIONAGENCY : NSA
RECORD NUMBER : 144-10001-10286
RECORDS SERIES :AGENCY FILE NUMBER :

DOCUMENT INFORMATION

ORIGINATOR : NSA
FROM : NSA
TO : HCO PLUSTITLE :
3/O/FRD/T72-64 SIHANOUK SPEECH CONDEMNS U.S. AND TREATS CAMBODIAN RELA [R]DATE : 01/17/64
PAGES : 2SUBJECTS :
ASSASSINATION, JOHN KENNEDYDOCUMENT TYPE : PAPER, TEXTUAL DOCUMENT
CLASSIFICATION : T
RESTRICTIONS : 1B
CURRENT STATUS : X
DATE OF LAST REVIEW : 07/24/98OPENING CRITERIA :
ORIGINATING AGENCY'S DETERMINATION REQUIRED

COMMENTS :

[R] - ITEM IS RESTRICTEDDRV FM: NSA/CSS Manual 123-2
Dated: 24 February 1998
DECL ON: X1,X3,X5,X6,X7,X8~~TOP SECRET UMBRA~~

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French

FRDBT

WS 11066-68

3/O/FRD/T72-64

IS 17 Jan 64 P

Dist: HCO Plus

SIHANOUK SPEECH CONDEMNS U.S., AND TREATS CAMBODIAN RELATIONS WITH FRANCE AND VIETNAM

FR Phnom Penh: BEAUSSE
TO Paris: The Department
Msg Nr: 1442-44

13 Dec 63

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[3-part message complete]

A visit made to the Takeo province on the 12th gave Prince SIHANOUK an opportunity to deliver a new speech. The United States was violently taken to task, and the Prince announced his decision to recall Mr. NONG KIMNY and almost all the personnel of the Khmer Embassy in Washington and to leave only the Cultural Attaché there as Chargé d'Affaires. He justified this step by the United States Ambassador's recent "protest" to the President of the Council against the "hate campaign" initiated in Cambodia following the death of Marshal THANARAT, a campaign which did not spare President KENNEDY's memory. Threats of a complete break were even made in the event that the hate campaign continued.

The Prince also took up--but much more moderately--the question of relations [1 gr M] Vietnam and stated that the Vietnamese Government had already been able to seize one of the Free Khmer transmitting stations and hoped to discover the other one soon. He added that Mr. TRAN CHANH THANH, former Vietnamese Ambassador to Tunisia, was to come to Cambodia at any moment to begin negotiations but that he was maintaining the five conditions that he had set up for the resumption of normal relations with South Vietnam.

Finally, the Chief of State announced the forthcoming arrival of Mr. MESSMER and a French delegation and expressed his confidence in President DE GAULLE, "who [1 gr U] Cambodia; but," he strongly emphasized, "it will be necessary for France to respect the

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dignity of Cambodia, which the latter will not give up at any price."

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